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FLORIDA.

A Catalogue of a Collection of Plants made in East Florida during the months of October and November, 1821, by A. Ware. By Thomas Nuttall. (C.)

In Am. Journ. Sci. and Arts., 1 series, Vol. v. 1822.

List of the Plants growing spontaneously in the vicinity of Quincy, Fla. By A. W. Chapman, M.D. (A.)

In Western Journ. Med. and Surg., Vol. iii. (new series), 23 pp. Louisville, Ky., 1845.

List of the Marine Algae collected by Dr. Edward Palmer on the coast of Florida and at Nassau, Bahama Islands, March-August, 1874. By D. C. Eaton. (B.)
8vo., pamphlet, pp. 6. New Haven, 1875.

An enumeration of some Plants, chiefly from the semi-tropical regions of Florida, which are either new, or which have not hitherto been recorded as belonging to the Flora of the Southern States. By A. W. Chapman, M.D. (D.)

In Botan. Gazette, Vol. iii. Logansport, 1878.

Ferns of South Florida. (With notes on the species.) By A. P. Garber.

In Bot. Gazette, Vol. iii. Logansport, 1878.

W. R. G.

N. L. B.

The brittle Branches of *Salix sericea*, Marshall.—Has any one examined critically the "brittleness at the base" of the branches in this willow, of which our text-books tell us? It seems phenomenal, though akin to the articulation we find in *Ampelopsis*, *Taxodium*, *Thuja* and some others at the fall of the year. Here is a branch so tough that we may use it like twine, and which separates as easily, by a light tug, as we pull a feather from a bird! It is not really "brittle at the base," for the base must mean either exactly at the junction with the parent stem, or some indefinite point above. But the point of separation is a little above the true "base," and always just at this point, barely a hair's breadth in width; and the breakage is always in a true circle around the stem. It is evidently not a species of "brittleness" so much as a case of specific, incipient articulation.

THOMAS MEEHAN.

A Suggestion.—Errors in the description of plants occur here and there in our Manuals of Botany, owing for the most part, no doubt, to the tendency of some species to vary from the typical form. But it is surprising that there should be so great a discrepancy in the diagnosis of *Carex Novae-Angliae* and *C. Emmonsii* so far as the color of their spikelets is concerned. Both Wood and Gray state that the former has purplish spikelets and the latter green ones; whereas the reverse seems to be the rule. Out of a large number of specimens of *C. Novae-Angliae* received from the mountains of New York, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts not one so much as suggests a purplish spikelet. On the other hand, *C. Emmonsii* always shows scales more or less purplish. Admitting